



U.S. DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY
Office of Electricity Delivery and Energy Reliability
Infrastructure Security and Energy Restoration

ENERGY ASSURANCE DAILY

Thursday Evening, May 01, 2008

Electricity

PSE&G's 1,049 MW Hope Creek Nuke Unit 1 in New Jersey Reduced to 90 Percent by May 1

The Nuclear Regulatory Commission reported that on the morning of April 30 the unit was operating at full power. Information derived from the NRC Power Reactor Status Reports:

<http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/doc-collections/event-status/reactor-status/2008/>

Update: Entergy's 1,266 MW Grand Gulf Nuclear Power Plant in Mississippi at Full Power by May 1

Entergy slowed the unit to 48 percent power April 30 after a raccoon crawled into a switchgear. The raccoon disrupted power supply to the facility.

Reuters, 07:31 May 1, 2008

FPL to Boost Capacity and Convert from Oil to Natural Gas at Two Florida Power Plants

Florida Power & Light (FPL) will convert its oil-fired Riviera and Cape Canaveral power plants to natural gas and, in the process, boost capacities at each. The Riviera power plant, which currently consists of two oil-fired, 280 MW units, will be converted to a 1,250 MW natural-gas fired unit by 2014. The Cape Canaveral power plant, which currently includes two, oil-fired 400 MW units, will be up-rated to a single 1,250 MW natural gas-fired unit by 2013.

<http://www.sun-sentinel.com/business/sfl-flzfp0501sbmay01.0.3319435.story>

<http://www.fpl.com/news/2008/043008.shtml>

Exelon Plans 600 MW Gas-fired Power Plant in Pennsylvania

Exelon is evaluating possible locations, and expects to file applications later this year. The plant would be in service in 2012, at the earliest, according to the company.

http://biz.yahoo.com/ap/080501/exelon_new_plant.html?v=1

Otter Tail Plans 200 MW Wind Farm in North Dakota

The Ashtabula Wind Center would be the biggest wind farm in North Dakota. Pending regulatory approvals, the project is expected to open for service by the end of 2008.

http://biz.yahoo.com/ap/080430/wind_mills_otter_tail.html?v=1

Attempted Copper Theft Cuts Power to 12,000 Customers in Kentucky April 30

A would-be copper thief mistook a fiber line for copper, and knocked out power to 12,000 Windstream Kentucky East customers in Kentucky April 30. Windstream began restoring power by 11:00 AM, May 1, a news source said. The company expected a full restoration by noon, May 1, according to a state filing.

<http://psc.ky.gov/ors/OutageReport.aspx>

<http://www.wkyt.com/news/headlines/18448949.html>

Explosion at Holly's 24,700 b/d Woods Cross, Utah Refinery April 30 Fire Controlled by Early May 1, but Repairs to Take About a Week

As workers repaired a crack in a pressure safety line, the line caught fire and exploded, according to news reports. The incident forced Holly to shut an alkylation unit and curtail production. The company plans to begin repairs today, May 1, and return the facility to normal service in about a week.

http://www.sltrib.com/ci_9115952

<http://www.reuters.com/article/rbssEnergyNews/idUSN0151475720080501>

Bloomberg, 12:33 May 1, 2008

Reuters, 12:36 May 1, 2008

FBI Investigates Unspecified Threat to Three Oil Refineries in Montana

The U.S. Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) is examining threats made to three refineries in Montana, a news source said. In the meantime, police have increased security around the facilities. The refineries were ConocoPhillips's 60,000 b/d Billings, Montana refinery, ExxonMobil's 58,000 b/d Billings, Montana refinery, and Cenex Harvest States Cooperative's 55,000 b/d Laurel, Montana refinery.

Reuters, 09:10 May 1, 2008

<http://www.eia.doe.gov/neic/rankings/refineries.htm>

Update: After February Explosion, Alon Eyes Mid-July Date for Full Restart of 67,000 b/d Big Spring, Texas Refinery]

Alon restarted some production at the refinery in April, but it continues to run at about 50 percent capacity. By mid-July, the company expects to restart a fluid catalytic cracking unit (FCCU), and restore the facility to full production.

http://money.cnn.com/news/newsfeeds/articles/djf500/200804290845DOWJONESDJONLINE000469_FORTUNE5.htm

<http://www.earthtimes.org/articles/show/holly-energy-partners-lp-reports-first-quarter-earnings,370398.shtml>

Update: ExxonMobil, Oil Workers Reach Agreement to End Nigerian Oil Strike, Union Leader Says—Significant Production Still Shut-in May 1

ExxonMobil is working to restore some crude output, but significant production remains curtailed, based on multiple reports. The company reached an agreement with oil workers to end the eight-day strike, according to a union leader. Production, however, remains stalled, another source said, as the company continues to negotiate terms with its workers. Though ExxonMobil did not confirm the strike shut all its Nigerian production—some 800,000 b/d—a news source said the disruption did, in fact, halt virtually all that total. An ExxonMobil spokesperson did not give a timetable for a full recovery.

Bloomberg, 11:37 May 1, 2008

Reuters, 08:42 May 1, 2008

Reuters, 12:03 May 1, 2008

Lyondell Restores FCCU at 268,000 b/d Houston, Texas Refinery

The fluid catalytic cracking unit (FCCU) shut near the end of March for unplanned work.

http://www.downstreamtoday.com/News/Articles/200804/LyondellBasell_Restarts_FCCU_At_Houston_10508.aspx

Update: After Two-Day Strike, Main Crude Unit Back Online at 200,000 b/d Grangemouth Refinery in Scotland—Full Resumption Expected Next Week

The diesel-producing hydrocracker is expected to come back online this weekend, an official said. The refinery should be back at full rates sometime next week, he said.

<http://uk.reuters.com/article/oilRpt/idUKL0129681320080501>

Natural Gas

Northern Natural Gas Declares Force Majeure at La Crosse/Tomah Natural Gas Branch Line in Wisconsin May 1

Northern Natural Gas Company is inspecting a suspected rupture along its 16-inch LaCrosse/Tomah branch line in Wisconsin, according to a filing. In order to investigate, the company will reduce line pressure.

http://www.northernnaturalgas.com/infopostings/asp/noticesCritical.asp?id_priority=Y&InetNoticeType=7&dt_posted_from=May++1+2008+11:27AM+&dt_posted_to=May++1+2008+11:27AM+#41911

Southern Natural Gas Declares Force Majeure along Main Pass 107 Natural Gas Pipeline Offshore Louisiana

The company is inspecting a possible rupture to its 14-inch Main Pass 107 pipeline, according to a filing.

<http://ixsnp.sonetpremier.com/ebbSNG/Notices/NoticeView.asp?sPipelineCode=SNG&sSubCategory=C&sNoticeId=26398&sIdentifier=04/30/2008#6>

Other News

Waste Management and Linde Plan 13,000 Gallon/Day Liquid Biogas Facility in California

The project would be the world's largest facility to convert landfill gas into biogas, according to a Linde company release. It should begin production in 2009.

<http://www.linde.com/international/web/linde/like35lindecom.nsf/0/4CE4D383777C94BAC125743B00601AF4v>
http://www.oilvoice.com/n/Waste_Management_and_Linde_to_Develop_the_Worlds_Largest_Landfill_Gas_to_LN_G_Facility/a7c8b602.aspx

EPA Updates Air Pollution Standards for Petroleum Refineries

The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) is requiring new, modified, or reconstructed process units at petroleum refineries to reduce air pollution emissions through updated performance standards. The standards require new, emission-reducing technology controls, and improved pollution-controlling work practices. Over the next five years, the agency expects the standards to reduce combined emissions from 30 petroleum refineries by nearly 31,000 tons per year.

<http://yosemite.epa.gov/opa/admpress.nsf/0/9c0a55dcce9338248525743b0062781c?OpenDocument>

Energy Prices

U.S. Oil and Gas Prices May 1, 2008			
	Today	Week Ago	Year Ago
CRUDE OIL West Texas Intermediate U.S. \$/Barrel	110.90	115.43	64.43
NATURAL GAS Henry Hub \$/Million Btu	10.81	10.33	7.70

Source: Reuters

Energy Notes

Power Outage Cancels 60 Flights, Delays Others at Memphis International Airport in Tennessee April 29-30

http://www.usatoday.com/travel/flights/2008-04-30-memphis-power-outage_N.htm?csp=34

Federal Inspectors to Investigate Duke Energy's Oconee Nuclear Power Station in South Carolina after Vibrations at Three Coolant Pumps April 12

<http://www.thestate.com/statewire/story/390934.html>

Update: Amid Public Complaints, Dominion Resources Changes Site of Proposed Gas-fired Power Plant in Maryland—New Site is Approximately Five Miles South

<http://www.wtop.com/?nid=598&sid=1395977>

Alliant Energy Receives Pre-Certification Approval for Proposed Coal-fired 630 MW Sutherland Generating Station Unit 4 in Iowa April 30

<http://www.alliantenergy.com/docs/groups/public/documents/pub/p016604.hcsp>

Upset at ExxonMobil's 563,000 b/d Baytown, Texas Refinery April 30—No Impact to Production, Company Says

Reuters, 18:15 April 30, 2008

Saturated Gas Recovery Unit Shuts Briefly at Valero's 325,000 b/d Port Arthur, Texas Refinery April 30—No Affect to Production, Company Says

Bloomberg, 11:58 April 30, 2008

Process Upset Causes Flaring at ConocoPhillips 146,000 b/d Borger, Texas Refinery April 30

Bloomberg, 09:29 May 1, 2008

Flaring at Sunoco's 145,000 b/d Eagle Point, New Jersey Refinery, Company Reports April 30

Bloomberg, 09:11 May 1, 2008

Western Refining Ramps up Low Sulfur Gasoline Unit at 62,000 b/d Yorktown, Virginia Refinery—Company Seeks to Meet Gasoline Regulations

http://www.downstreamtoday.com/News/Articles/200804/Western_Starts_Up_Gasoline_Unit_At_Yorke_10520.aspx

Update: Newfoundland and Labrador Refining Gets Environmental Nod for 300,000 b/d Southern Head Refinery in Canada

<http://www.reuters.com/article/governmentFilingsNews/idUSN3053391920080430>

CountryMark Plans 3,000 b/d Expansion at 23,000 b/d Mount Vernon, Indiana Refinery by May, 2008

http://www.ibj.com/html/detail_page.asp?content=13347

<http://countrymark.com/node/320>

Amid Nigerian Strikes and Declining Production from Saudi Arabia and Iran, OPEC Crude Supply Dips to Yearly Low in April, Reuters Survey Says—31.64 Million b/d Total Marks a 410,000 b/d Decline from March, 2008

Reuters, 09:16 May 1, 2008

OPEC Oil Exports, Not Including Angola and Ecuador, to Increase by 60,000 b/d in Four Weeks Ending May 17, From 24.56 Million b/d to 24.62 Million b/d

Reuters, 11:30 May 1, 2008

Venezuelan Power Outages Affect Some Oil Production in Zulia State, Oil Minister Says April 30

Reuters, 13:56 April 30, 2008

**Algonquin Files With FERC for J-2 Loop Natural Gas Pipeline Project in Massachusetts—
Build Would Include Two Miles of 14-inch Pipeline, Slated for 2009 Completion**

http://www.spectraenergy.com/news/releases/2008/Apr/20080430_01.asp

Links

This Week in Petroleum from the Energy Information Administration (EIA)

<http://tonto.eia.doe.gov/oog/info/twip/twip.asp>

Updated every Wednesday.

Weekly Petroleum Status Report from EIA

http://www.eia.doe.gov/oil_gas/petroleum/data_publications/weekly_petroleum_status_report/wpsr.html

Updated after 10:30 AM & 1:00 PM EST every Wednesday.

Natural Gas Weekly Update from EIA

<http://tonto.eia.doe.gov/oog/info/ngw/ngupdate.asp>

Updated after 2:00 PM EST every Thursday.

ENERGY ASSURANCE DAILY

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<http://www.oe.netl.doe.gov/index.aspx>.

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